0005

From:

Ingrid Wieser

To:

OGMCOAL

Date:

9/9/2009 1:16 PM Fwd: RE: Bond Release sites

Subject: Place:

OGMCOAL

Please scan for castle gate mine, C0070004, no task #. Thanks!

>>> "Ware, Dennis (WC) 0475" < <u>dware@alphanr.com</u>> 9/9/2009 10:38 AM >>> Ingrid,

Most likely the small sites you are referring to are associated with the Castle Gate Permit. The disturbed and reclaimed areas within the Castle Gate Permit are located in three separate areas in Carbon County, namely, Sowbelly Gulch/Canyon, Hardscrabble Canyon and Price Canyon. The majority of the reclamation was complete ten or more years ago with just a small portion reclaimed in 2002.

Sowbelly Gulch/Canyon

Reclamation on 18.2 acres was complete in 1995 Reclamation on 1.84 acres (the substation) was complete in 2002

Hardscrabble Canyon

Reclamation on 37.1 acres was complete in 1999 Reclamation on 0.78 acres (the substation) was complete in 2002

Price Canyon (Adit # 1)

Reclamation on 1.7 acres was complete in 2002

Castle Gate Holding Company plans to file for Phase III bond release in 2010 for the 18.2 acres in Sowbelly and the 37.1 acres in Hardscrabble. Unless the Division allows the other small pieces to be included in the Phase III bond release we will have to maintain the permit until the year 2013. This means a lot of administrative work for both the Permittee and the Division. A Veg. study conducted in 2006 shows that the veg. on these three small portions (reclaimed in 2002) meet the standards required for Phase III bond release (see the veg. report provided in the 2007 Annual Report).

You can find the As-Built Topography and Treatment Maps in the Castle Gate permit as follows:

Sowbelly -

Volume II, Section 3.2, Exhibit 3.2-13

Hardscrabble -

Volume III, Section 3.3, Exhibit 3.3-23

Adit #1 -

Volume IV, Section 3.5, Exhibit 3.5-6AB

As a note, when we visited the three small sites for the Phase I bond inspection on September 8, 2005, Mr. Henry Austin of OSM (Denver Office) asked Pamela Grubaugh-Littig to try and find a way to include these three small sites in the Phase III bond release at the same time as the large sites in Sowbelly and Hardscrabble Canyons; Dana Dean was present at this inspection. I have been told that OSM has adopted a less stringent standard for Phase III Bond Release which, as I recall, allows for release any year after year 6 in which the veg. meets the standard.

Incoming C0070004

Thanks for taking the time to look into this issue.

Dennis Ware 435-650-2951

----Original Message----

From: Ingrid Wieser [mailto:ingridwieser@utah.gov] Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2009 7:57 AM

To: Ware, Dennis (WC) 0475 Subject: Bond Release sites

Hi Dennis-

To refresh your memory, during the star point mine site visit, we discussed a couple of small sites of yours that are in the liability period. I now have time to look into the regulations for you to see if the full liability period needs to be applied to them for bond release. Can you give me a bit of information on these sites (i.e. names, acreages, pages in the M&RP) so that I can look into it for you? Give me a call or email if you have any questions. Thanks!

Ingrid Wieser
Environmental Scientist II
Division of Oil Gas & Mining
1594 W North Temple, Suite 1210
PO Box 145801
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801
801-538-5318
IngridWieser@utah.gov